

Claims 11, 15, 18 and 19 have different limitations also not found in any of the cited art or any other art known to applicants or their attorney.

Specifically claims 11 and 18 recite "storing minimum values of scanner output in the trend array as a document is scanned; and

evaluating the maximum values in the trend array and the minimum values in the minimum trend array to determine a rate of scanner performance deterioration."

Claims 15, 18 and 19 recite "programmed logic means for comparing a value captured at each picture element during each scan line of an image with the value captured by the picture element during a preceding scan line to collect a maximum value captured by the picture element during scanning of the image;

programmed trend array logic means including a trend array for storing maximum values of scanner output as documents are scanned;

programmed trend analyzer logic means for evaluating the maximum values in the trend array to determine a rate of scanner performance deterioration."

Claim 19 also recites "programmed interleave control logic means for interleaving a test digital image of known information between digital images of information on documents in the image buffer;

programmed comparator logic means for comparing processed test image result information with expected result information to detect defects in image processing portions of the system;

CT9-99-006

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Serial No: 09/598,141

Filed: June 21, 2000